(*d*) The importance of the road with reference to traffic, and the number of consumers obtainable.

(*e*) A copy of the G. O. is laid on the table.

R. O. C. No. 5156/25/P. W. dated 2nd September 1927, from the Chief Secretary to Government to the Chief Engineer, Travancore.

With reference to your letters Nos. 1465, and 1466, dated 6th June 1927, regarding the Trivandrum Electric Supply Scheme, I have the honour to inform you that, as recommended, Government sanction the acceptance, provisionally, of the wholly Oil Engine Scheme as outlined by Mr. K. P. P. Menon in his final report, dated 26th March 1927, providing for an Oil Engine Installation at Trivandrum at an estimated total cost of about Rs. 2·75 lakhs. It is noted that a provision of Rs. 1½ lakhs has been made for the purpose in the P. W. D. Budget for 1103.

2. Government also sanction Mr. K. P. P. Menon, the Industrial Engineer, being appointed as an Electrical Engineer in the Public Works Department, temporarily for one year, on his present scale of pay plus a duty allowance of Rs. 100 per mensem, to initiate the working of the scheme inthe P. W. D. Mr. Menon will, in addition, be in charger of the working of the proposed Telephone Extension in the town, which is unde consideration.

3. As one of the main objects of the scheme is the lighting of the town streets, the existing gas houses and the plant &c., for generating gas for street lighting will cease to be of any use, after the scheme is completely worked out. I am, therefore, to request that you will be so good as to send up, at a very early date, your proposals for disposing of them or for using them for other purposes.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: May I know whether it was not the original intention of Government, when they passed the order, to introduce lighting in the public streets of Trivandrum?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN: That is part of the scheme.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: Then, may I know why many of the public streets are not lighted?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN: That will be attended to gradually.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: May I know whether there is enough of current in the Power House to light the public streets?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN: The current will be given according to necessity.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: May I know how a particular street is preferred to another in the matter of lighting?

PRESIDENT: That question has been answered. The importance of the road with reference to the traffic and the number of consumers obtainable are the prime considerations.

Opening of an Anchal office at Madavoor-Pallikkal.

20. MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received any representations regarding the opening of a new Anchal Office at Madavoor-Pallikkal in Chirayinkil taluk, and if so, when the earliest representation was and what action has been taken in the matter?

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MR. T. C. THOMMEN: No. But it is known from the Anchal Superintendent that he had received a petition from the inhabitants of Madavoor-Pallikkal, with copy of a resolution passed at a public meeting held at the place on 10th Vrischikam 1104. There was none to furnish security against loss to Government and no action was therefore taken in the matter.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: Has the member any defenite information as to whether anybody has offered security or not?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN: It is reported that nobody has offered security.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to enquire whether anybody has offered security so that the Anchal Office could be opened?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN: The matter will be enquired into.

Encouragement of Punja cultivators.

21. *MR. M. N. NARAYANA MENON (*Kottayam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee has recommended that sufficient encouragement should be given to punja cultivators so that their agricultural expenses may be reduced; and

(*b*) whether they have taken any action accordingly?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): (*a*) The Economic Depression Enquiry Committee have recommended that the State should pursue a policy of active assistance to paddy cultivators so as to enable them to bring down the cost of cultivation and to increse the output of their fields.

(*b*) The Director of Agriculture has proposed certain relief measures which are under the consideration of Government.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Nominated*): May I know from the member, what are the specific recommendations of the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee to assist the paddy cultivators?

MR. K. GEORGE: The supply of cheap crude oil from the B. O. Company is the chief recommendation.

MR. K. K. THOMAS: Does the member know of the variation in the market rate of the oil supplied by the B. O. C. and other compaines?

MR. K. GEORGE: I have no information.

MR. K. K. THOMAS: Is there any other recommendation?

MR. K. GEORGE: The Director of Agriculture has recommended the sale of agricultural implements on hire purchase system and the grant of short term loans.

Imposition of fines on students for default in payment of fees.

22. *MR. M. N. NARAYANA MENON: Will the Government be pleased to state.

(*a*) whether the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee has recommended that the system of levying fines on students who fail to pay their fees in time should be discontinued; and

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